DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 336 099 IR 053 674

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TITLE Holbrook Public Library and Holbrook High School Library--Two Avenues to the Same Goal: Service.

INSTITUTION Northland Pioneer Coll., Holbrook, Ariz.
PUB DATE May 91
NOTE 7p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Community Resources; Financial Support; Fund Raising; Grantsmanship; High Schools; Interlibrary Loans; *Library Automation; *Library Cooperation; Library Materials; *Library Services; *Public Libraries; *School Libraries
IDENTIFIERS *Arizona (Navajo County)

ABSTRACT

This report describes how a public library and a high school library in Holbrook, Arizona, have both provided service to their clienteles through a common method: the full use of their community's resources. The Holbrook High School Library, which is completely automated, has been successful with its creative funding techniques and as a participant of a purchasing consortium, which involves some 77 libraries in two counties. The Holbrook Public Library, too, has garnered support from the community through the creation of a new Friends of the Library group. In spite of limited funding, the library is making significant progress towards securing more financial and community support. While neither of these libraries has access to the financial and professional resources available in urban areas, they have both made great strides because, as has been recommended by the American Association of School Librarians, they are willing to look beyond their own walls and use the community as a library resource. It is noted that during the 1991 fall semester the Department of Library/Media Technology at Northland Picneer College will be offering several short courses that will help both of these libraries achieve their goals. (MAB)

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HOLBROOK PUBLIC LIBRARY AND HOLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY-- TWO AVENUES TO THE SAME GOAL: SERVICE

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HOLBROOK PUBLIC LIBRARY AND
HOLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY--
TWO AVENUES TO THE SAME GOAL: SERVICE

The Holbrook Public Library and the Holbrook High School Library are two widely diverse libraries in the City of Holbrook which are united in one common goal: service.

The Holbrook High School Library is housed in a new building on the Holbrook High School campus. It is part of the administration building, and as such, is a focal part of the campus. It has separate entrances, and students and patrons do not have to go through other portions of the administration building to enter the library.

A great deal of care has gone into the design and execution of the library. It is bright and cheerful. Reader services are located throughout the entire public services area, and ample work space is provided. A collection of 47 periodicals is provided. Both hard copy and microformatted back issues are available.

The library has recently been completely automated. Using the Scribe System, the library has an automated on-line catalog for all of its 13,000+ volumes. The system is a complete turn-key system, which enables the librarian to enter an item once during the ordering stage, and the record created during the ordering stage is continually updated as the material is received, cataloged, and made shelf-ready, complete with bar code labels which are produced locally. The system does fund accounting and can generate purchase orders and accounting reports. It also has a circulation module which is completely integrated, and the librarian can print out various reports as needed throughout the school year. It generates all overdue notices, and can produce patron bills, etc. A hard-copy traditional card catalog is also maintained as a back-up.

The librarian is well versed and articulate. Her clientele is pleased with her efforts because she goes out of her way to be helpful. The library is staffed with a full-time librarian and two part-time assistants, one of whom has an M.L.S. Additional staffing would be extremely helpful, although some student aid help is available throughout the day.

The librarian has been somewhat successful with creative funding. She secured a fax machine through the aid of vocational funding available to the school. vocational funding pays for fax paper and machine upkeep, but the machine is located in the library and is well used. Recently, six schools in Navajo and Apache Counties have banded together to form a purchasing consortium in order to secure greater discounts on library purchases. The Holbrook High School Library is participating in this consortium.

The Holbrook High School Library has been active in the Navajo County Library Consortium. Because Navajo County is the only county in Arizona without a county library, the Navajo County Library Consortium was founded to foster library development within the county. The Holbrook High School Library has been instrumental in lending support to the consortium's cooperative efforts involving some seventy-seven libraries in the county. It has willingly lent materials to member libraries, and faxed countless periodical articles to library patrons throughout the area. It has cooperated in joint planning and grant writing efforts, and has provided leadership to other libraries in the area.

The Holbrook Public Library is adjacent to the Holbrook Municipal Building. It is in an attractive building which is centrally located and easy to locate. For many years, this library lead a rather quiet existence. It was used by individuals who knew it was there, but little was done to encourage use by others within the community. With the advent of a new librarian, things are changing however.

The library has some 12,000+ volumes. Limited periodicals are also provided. Some work area is provided, but it is small and cramped. Within the past few months, a new Friends of the Library group has been organized. Comprised of community leaders, and led by the local Methodist minister, the library is slowly but surely coming out of the dark ages. The Department of Library/Media Technology at Northland Pioneer College is providing some assistance, but the leadership is coming from lay people in the community.

The Holbrook Public Library is dedicated to providing quality service and is working hard to do so. For the first time in its

existence, two LSCA grant applications will be submitted. The first grant is for a fax machine and the local and long distance telephone service to support the fax machine. The second grant is for equipment and telephone support to add the Holbrook Public Library holdings to the Northland Pioneer College Learning Resource Center data base. It is hoped that this data base will become an automated data base for all of the county's libraries.

The Friends of the Library group has been instrumental in garnering support for the library and its activities. They are planning to erect a sign which will display library hours. They are planning a puppet show to raise funds for library activities. The library is already collecting aluminum cans and using the proceeds for books. During National Library Week, a "Night of a Thousand Stars" was held in conjunction with the American Library Association promotion of the event on a national basis. Several community leaders came and read from their favorite reading materials and refreshments were served. The cable company has donated a television cable, and a request for a donated water fountain has been made. Efforts are underway to find ways to repair the library building, including insolation and proper cooling. A crafts fair is being planned with proceeds going to the library.

Funding for the library is extremely tight at present. There are only two employees--a full-time librarian and a part-time assistant. In July, there is a possibility that funding for the part-time assistant will no longer be available. The book budget is only $5,000.00. Funding for the library has decreased in recent years. It is under the city manager, but is not considered a department. The city manager is new, and seems interested in providing quality library service. He strongly suggested that the library participate in "Night of a Thousand Stars" and lent his support to the project. He was in fact, one of the readers. The library has a long way to go, but is making significant progress.

Because of funding problems, it will be necessary to secure volunteers to help provide library services. The corps of volunteers that are needed will come from the Friends of the Library group.

Training will be provided by the Department of Library/Media Technology at Northland Pioneer College.

A concerted effort is being made to show the library as an asset rather than a liability. Friends members are learning how to be library advocates. Friends are also helping with designing bulletin boards and writing book reviews for publication in the local newspaper. One individual is interested in getting a **Great Books of the Western World** discussion group going. During a recent brain storming session, there was no end to the many ideas that came forth for consideration. Several individuals in the community are making it known that they want the library and that the library is an important part of their lives.

Neither of these libraries can be evaluated by urban library standards. The financial and professional resources available in urban areas are not available here. There are only six M. L. S. librarians in Navajo County. Four are at school libraries and two are employed at Northland Pioneer College. There are no M. L. S. librarians employed in any of Navajo County public libraries. Yet, these libraries succeed because they want to succeed. They want to learn and they want to better their library situations. A large portion of their success lies in attitude. Both of the librarians running these libraries are willing to put forth the extra effort that is necessary to make a library program work. They don't have all the answers, but they are learning to get the answers. They are bright and efficient, and walking commercials for their library situations. People know that they are librarians, and people know that they are welcome in their library establishments, for whatever reasons. Neither library is where it would like to be, but vast improvements have been made in each library within the past few months.

The American Association of School Librarians published a new publication on standards a few years ago. One of the standards suggested is applicable here. It is a good standard for any library to adopt. The standard suggests that each school library look beyond its own walls and use the community as its library base. This means that anything in a community can be used as a library resource. When I read that standard, I got excited. Perhaps it is because I've been trying

to do this for years. Maybe this is why these two libraries, both of which have a long way to go, have been successful and continue to be successful. They have learned to use the community as an invaluable resource.

Drastic strides have been made by these libraries. I think I am safe in saying that they are both looking forward to the special challenges that they will be facing in the years and months ahead.

The Department of Library/Media Technology at Northland Pioneer College will be offering several short courses during the fall semester, 1991 which will help both of these libraries achieve their goals. The courses, which will be held in Show Low, Arizona, fifty miles from Holbrook are:

Library Advocacy Workshop

Grant Writing for Libraries and Media Centers

Library Friends and Volunteers Workshop